

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Burma
 SUBJECT Collaboration between the Karens and the People's Democratic Front (PDF)
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1. A leaflet dated 7 January 1951, found recently in Thaton District, discloses a non-aggression pact between the Karen National Defense Organization (KNDO) and the People's Democratic Front (PDF).* The leaflet was signed by Saw OHN PE,** Brigadier, Kawthulay Armed Forces, and WE LWIN, President of the PDF, and calls for the joining of forces to fight against the Government.
2. There have been other recent reports of local agreements between the Karens and branches of the Burma Communist Party (BCP), principally in the Delta and Toungoo.***
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 * Comment. This is the first indication of an agreement between the KNDO and PDF in this area.
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 ** Comment. Saw OHN PE was appointed the Kawthulay Military Administrator for the Tenasserim Division in September 1950.
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 *** Comment. Since Karen opposition to Communism is well known, their recent alliances with the BCP and PDF have undoubtedly resulted from a shortage of arms, and the hope that collaboration with the Communists will bring them aid in setting up an independent state. The Karens are also reported to be impressed with the Communists' chances of success, and are seeking agreement with them as insurance against persecution at a later date.

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